



WESTMINSTER TRAFFIC COMMISSION

Minutes of the Regular Meeting

City Council Chambers, 8200 Westminster Blvd.
Tuesday – July 26, 2011 at 6:00 pm

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Westminster Traffic Commission was called to order by Vice Chairman Robbins on Tuesday, July 26, 2011 at 6:05 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 8200 Westminster Boulevard, Westminster, California.

SALUTE TO FLAG

Commissioner Cruz led the members of the audience in the Salute to the Flag.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Diana Carey, Gilbert Cruz, Linh Nguyen and Ken Robbins

Commissioners Absent: Andrew Nguyen

Staff Present: Adolfo Ozaeta, Associate Civil Engineer; Corporal Mark Lauderback, Police Department and Veronica Johnson, Secretary.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the Traffic Commission's regular meeting of June 28, 2011 were approved (3-0).

ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED

The first item to be considered at this evening's meeting was T.C. 77-142, Request for on-street disabled parking at 5852 Gloucester Circle.

T.C. 77-142 5852 Gloucester

Mr. Ozaeta informed the Commission that John Patterson, 5852 Gloucester Circle, visited City Hall and requested staff to identify one area in front of his residence for on-street disabled parking.

The City complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and adopted criteria for on-street disabled parking, upon request, from those in possession of a disability placard.

Mr. Ozaeta directed attention to Exhibit A which exemplified ample parking for the resident's vehicle in the drive way and existing garage. Staff encourages residents to utilize their driveway and garage for parking their vehicles and not for storage. Staff assessed the location and found that Mr. Patterson does make use of his parking spaces and that it would be easier to navigate to his front door from his driveway or garage rather than from the street.

STAFF'S

RECOMMENDATION Staff's recommendation was to deny the request for installation of on-street disabled parking in front of 5852 Gloucester Circle.

Commissioner Carey questioned if Mr. Patterson possessed a permanent placard and Mr. Ozaeta explained the it is indeed a permanent placard.

Vice Chairman Robbins questioned if staff placed a smart level at the location and Mr. Ozaeta explained they did not. Vice Chairman Robbins added that it does not appear to be more than a 4% grade.

John Patterson, 5852 Gloucester Circle, spoke in favor of the parking restrictions in front of his residence because he is 100% disabled. He has trouble standing, walking and breathing as his condition is getting worse. His son also has problems parking on the weekends due to the neighbors occupying all of the street parking. He requested 15 feet of on-street parking restrictions because his vehicle doors are too heavy for him and they swing back due to the incline in the driveway.

Jason Smith, 5831 Gloucester Circle, spoke in favor of the parking restrictions because his truck is too large to fit in his driveway; therefore, he has to park in the street. It is larger than Mr. Patterson's and understands that it is very difficult to park. He supports the 15 feet of restrictions for Mr. Patterson and does not believe it will be a hardship for the neighbors.

Commissioner Carey questioned if the parking is full on the weekends and Mr. Smith explained it is absolutely packed. He does not drive his truck on the weekend because he will not have a place to park; therefore, he will only drive his wife's car because it fits in the driveway.

Mr. Ozaeta informed the Commission that he had received four phone calls from residents in opposition to the request.

Commissioner Cruz explained that if a disabled parking spot was installed it would not be strictly for Mr. Patterson's use; it would be a space available for anyone who is disabled. There is sufficient parking in the driveway and he does not believe one space should be locked up as it will affect the other residents. The streets belong to the public.

Commissioner Carey added that Mr. Patterson's driveway is larger than a normal two car garage in the area. It appears that a truck and another larger car could be parked in the driveway and there would be enough room to get in and out with the doors open.

Commissioner L. Nguyen reiterated that everyone has their own parking habits. He agrees with Commissioner Cruz and believes a reserved disabled space may infringe on the parking in the area. Mr. Patterson's driveway appears to have an extended area of concrete for anyone in the household to park.

Vice Chairman Robbins questioned Mr. Patterson if he ever backs in to his driveway as this assists with the doors staying open.

MOTION

Commissioner Carey moved to approve Staff's Recommendation to deny the request for on-street disabled parking at 5852 Gloucester Circle, seconded by Commission L. Nguyen.

VOTE

The motion was carried by a 4-0 vote with Chairman A. Nguyen being absent.

NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Carey had some concerns with the Bolsa Chica Median Island Improvements and Mr. Ozaeta explained that signs will be placed at major entry points without polluting the entire corridor and reflective markers will also be placed at every nose.

OLD BUSINESS

Commissioner Cruz informed staff that 206 Hospital Circle was repainted; however, there is graffiti again. Mr. Ozaeta explained Code Enforcement is working with the property owner to implement more lighting or a gate in the area as the graffiti seems to reappear over night.

**INFORMATION
& REPORTS**

There were no "Information and Reports" items presented to the Commission at tonight's meeting.

**ORAL
COMMUNICATIONS**

There were no "Oral Communications" items presented to the Commission at tonight's meeting.

**WRITTEN
COMMUNICATIONS**

There were no "Written Communications" items presented to the Commission at tonight's meeting.

**ITEMS
COMMISSIONERS
MAY WISH TO
DISCUSS**

Commissioner Carey reported her neighbor had sent her an email to implement a neighborhood watch because gang members are throwing eggs on vehicle windshields, thus, when the driver uses their windshield wipers it smears and they cannot see and that's when they get robbed. The Commission further commented on additional potential risks.

Commissioner L. Nguyen reported that a street light is out in front of his house and another one on the corner of Bolsa and Purdy, for approximately six months. Mr. Ozaeta informed him that Southern California Edison is responsible for the street lights and will place a work order to the service planner on his behalf.

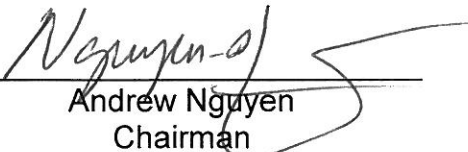
**ITEMS STAFF MAY
WISH TO DISCUSS**

Mr. Ozaeta questioned Commissioner Carey if she would be available to revisit the striping with All American Asphalt and she answered that she would. Mr. Ozaeta further explained that they are pursuing other alternatives for striping to be placed.

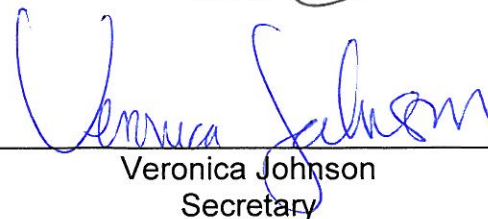
ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Commission at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Andrew Nguyen
Chairman



Veronica Johnson
Secretary